



Advocacy and Legal Assistance				
Organization	Service Description	Address	Phone number	Website
<b>Academic-Autistic Spectrum Partnership in Research and Education (AASPIRE)</b>	Provides information on Autism, healthcare, health tips, medical information, and your healthcare rights. Also has worksheets and forms used to assist individuals with self-advocacy when meeting with healthcare providers.	n/a	1-503-725-9603	<a href="https://autismandhealth.org/">https://autismandhealth.org/</a>
<b>African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities</b>	Trains parents of children with disabilities with advocacy, education, resources and support in the areas of special education, disability, juvenile justice, and health equity.	49 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT 06105	860-548-9959	<a href="https://www.afcamp.org/">https://www.afcamp.org/</a>
<b>Ari of Connecticut</b>	ARI's staff will participate in IEP and transition planning meetings, and will assist each student ages 15+ to develop their transition goals in order to work toward the future.- Information provided by 211 Infoline UWC	174 Richmond Hill Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902	203-324-9258 ext. 3027	<a href="https://www.arict.org/">https://www.arict.org/</a>
<b>Autism Services &amp; Resources Connecticut (ASRC)</b>	On a state level, provide systematic advocacy for needs of people with Autism Disorder.	101 North Plains Industrial Road, Harvest Park, Wallingford, CT 06492	203-265-7717	<a href="https://ct-asrc.org/legislative-advocacy/">https://ct-asrc.org/legislative-advocacy/</a>
<b>Autism Speaks</b>	Advocacy Toolkit- learn to advocate for your child every step of the way	n/a	1-888-288-4762	<a href="https://www.autismspeaks.org/tool-kit/advocacy-tool-kit">https://www.autismspeaks.org/tool-kit/advocacy-tool-kit</a>

<b>Center for Children's Advocacy</b>	<p>The Medical-Legal Partnership Project advocacy and representation to improve the health and welfare of children. The areas of assistance includes matters affecting the children's health, education and welfare.</p> <p>Representatives are on site at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Burgdorf/Bank of America Health Center, and Charter Oak Health Center.</p>	Hartford- 2074 Park Street, Hartford, CT 06106; Bridgeport- 211 State Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604; Yale New Haven Hospital; CT Children's Medical Center	Hartford- (860) 570-5327; Bridgeport- (203) 335-5327; CCA at CT Children's Medical Center- (860) 545-8581; CCA at Yale New Haven Hospital- (203) 688-0113	<a href="https://cca-ct.org/our-work/aboutus_programs_mlpp/">https://cca-ct.org/our-work/aboutus_programs_mlpp/</a>
<b>Center for Medicare Advocacy</b>	The Center offers legal advice, advocacy, community education and information on Medicare and related issues, including assistance with Medicare appeals. The Center also answers questions about changes to Medicare coverage, including Medicare prescription drug coverage.	Connecticut Office- P.O. Box 350 Willimantic, CT 06226	86-456-7790 or 1-800-262-4414	<a href="https://www.medicareadvocacy.org/">https://www.medicareadvocacy.org/</a>
<b>Center on Technology and Disability</b>	Assists families and professionals in advocating, acquiring and implementing effective assistive and instructional technology practices, devices and services as well as offers an extensive library and an interactive learning center	FHI 360, 1825 Connecticut Ave N.W., Washington, DC 20009	n/a	<a href="http://www.ctdinstitute.org">www.ctdinstitute.org</a>
<b>CT Association of Centers for Independent Living (CACIL)</b>	Core services of the Centers for independent Living include 1. Information & referral, 2. Independent living skills training, 3. Peer Mentoring and Networking, 4. Advocacy, 5. Nursing facility transition, 6. Youth transition to higher education or employment	Various locations	203-378-6977	<a href="https://cacil.net/">https://cacil.net/</a>

<b>Child Development Infoline</b>	Helps families learn to advocate for appropriate health and educational services. Advises parents of children with disabilities or with special health care needs of their rights under the law with regard to obtaining needed services or equipment in educational settings. Directs parents to the appropriate resources to assist with information on health care financing and SSI.	1344 Silas Deane Highway #306, Rocky Hill, CT 06067	1-800-505-7000	<a href="https://cdi.211ct.org/">https://cdi.211ct.org/</a>
<b>Connecticut Bar Association</b>	Middle School Mock Trial Workshops allow teams to learn courtroom style, cross-examination techniques, as well as learning how to deliver opening and closing arguments.	30 Bank Street, New Britain, CT 06051	860-223-4400	<a href="http://www.ctbar.org">www.ctbar.org</a>
<b>Connecticut Families for Effective Autism Treatment (CT FEAT)</b>	Provides Legal information related to education and links to legal and advocacy resources	P.O. Box 370352, West Hartford, CT 06137	n/a	<a href="http://www.ctfeat.org">www.ctfeat.org</a>
<b>Connecticut Family Support Network (CTFSN)</b>	Agencies goal is to support families who are raising children with disabilities and special healthcare as well as adults with intellectual, developmental or special health care needs. Agency provides one-on-one support, advocacy and guidance, workshops and trainings, support groups, self-advocacy assistance, and information.	377 Hubbard Street #1, Glastonbury, CT 06033	1 (877) 376-2329	<a href="http://www.ctfsn.org">www.ctfsn.org</a>
<b>Connecticut Legal Services</b>	Provide legal advice and representation for people who are low income in the areas of housing, employment, education, family law, health, safety, and other basic needs.	Administrative Office- 62 Washington Street, 4th Floor Middletown, CT 06457. Locations vary.	860-344-0447	<a href="https://ctlegal.org/contact/">https://ctlegal.org/contact/</a>
<b>Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center (CPAC)</b>	Is a statewide non-profit organization that offers information and support to families of children with disabilities ages birth to 26. The variety of supports and programs is intended to improve the educational outcomes for children with disabilities.	338 Main Street, Niantic, CT 06357	1-800-445-2722	<a href="http://www.cpacinc.org">www.cpacinc.org</a>

<b>Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund</b>	Agency works to ensure equal access to legal, education and social service systems. Agency provides workshops to educated individuals of their rights in areas of family law, employment and education.	75 Charter Oak Avenue, Suite 1-300, Hartford, CT 06106	1-800-479-2949	<a href="https://www.cwealf.org/">https://www.cwealf.org/</a>
<b>CTLawHelp.org</b>	Several Statewide Legal Services agencies have collaborated to provide this user friendly, self-help guide to special education law, benefits, housing, family law, immigration and citizenship, medical and healthcare.	n/a	n/a	<a href="https://ctlawhelp.org/en/special-education-in-connecticut">https://ctlawhelp.org/en/special-education-in-connecticut</a>
<b>Destiny Outreach</b>	This is a group for parents who want to network and make effective changes within their community. 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month from 4-6 p.m. East Hartford Cultural Center, East Hartford, CT	50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, CT 06108	860-726-3646	n/a
<b>Developmental Services, State of CT Dept. of</b>	For children on the autism waiver wait list who are ages 3-8, Education Liaisons may be able to assist families to advocate for their children's special education services. Resources are not entitlements and are subject to availability in the Region in which the individual resides.	460 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106	North Region (Newington Office)- 1-877-437-4577; South Region (New Haven Office)- 1-877-437-4567; West Region (Cheshire Office)- 1-877-491-2720	<a href="http://www.ct.gov/dds">www.ct.gov/dds</a>
<b>Disabilities Network of Eastern CT, Inc.</b>	Agency provides advocacy support with issues such as obtaining benefits, social services, access to public facilities, employment, education and communication discrimination	860-823-1898	19 Ohio Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360	<a href="https://www.dnec.org/advocacy">https://www.dnec.org/advocacy</a>
<b>Disability Rights CT, Inc</b>	Disability Rights Connecticut, Inc. (DRCT) is an advocacy organization providing legal advocacy and rights protection for individuals with disabilities. Areas of concern include but are not limited to issues with abuse, neglect, discrimination, access to assistive technologies, voting, education	846 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114	1-800-842-7303	<a href="https://www.disrightsct.org/">https://www.disrightsct.org/</a>

<b>Family Advocacy Program (FAVOR)</b>	Offers training, technical assistance and, support to parents and caregivers. Provides assistance with self-advocacy and testifying in public hearings. Also offers an advocacy tool kit.	185 Silas Deane Highway Wethersfield, CT 06109	860-563-3232	<a href="http://www.favor-ct.org">www.favor-ct.org</a>
<b>Friends of Autistic People</b>	Charitable organization advocates for appropriate services for adults with ASD throughout the lifespan. Organization offers parent workshops and music therapy.	974 North Street, Greenwich, CT	203-661-8510	<a href="http://www.autisticadults.com/">http://www.autisticadults.com/</a>
<b>Independence Unlimited</b>	Independence Unlimited Youth Transitions Project increases the participation of youth with disabilities and their parents in the process of planning for their transition into adulthood. This includes self advocacy, skills training, service linkage and outreach.	151 New Park Ave., North Annex suite D, Hartford, CT 06106	860-523-5021	<a href="https://www.independenceunlimited.org/index.php/our-programs/youth-transitions">https://www.independenceunlimited.org/index.php/our-programs/youth-transitions</a>
<b>Job Accommodation Network</b>	The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) offers free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues.	PO Box 6080, Morgantown, WV 26506	1-800-526-7234	<a href="https://askjan.org/">https://askjan.org/</a>
<b>LARC</b>	Torrington Area Families for Autism (TAFA) offers an Autism Support Group for parents which focuses on Autism advocacy, Awareness and Support. The group also offers activities, social outings and integrated playgroups for children. Support groups meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at LARC (314 Main Street, Torrington). Children are welcomed.	314 Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790	860-482-9364	<a href="https://www.litchfieldarc.org/autism-support.html">https://www.litchfieldarc.org/autism-support.html</a>
<b>Mayerson &amp; Associates</b>	Website contains information related to educational rights and for person's with disabilities. Site contains resource information for informational purposes and is not intended as legal advice. Individuals can access information of state statutes and important court decisions (many involve IEP and special education)	330 West 38th Street, Suite 600 New York, NY 10018	212-265-7200	<a href="http://mayerslaw.com/">http://mayerslaw.com/</a>
<b>National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making</b>	A resource individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities can use to help create Supported Decision-Making plans, connect you with resources, and answer questions.	n/a	202-448-1448	<a href="http://www.supporteddecisionmaking.org/about">http://www.supporteddecisionmaking.org/about</a>
<b>Office of the Healthcare Advocate (OHA)</b>	Provides free advocacy and assistance to resolve healthcare and insurance issues	P.O. Box 1543 Hartford, CT 06144	1-866-466-4446	<a href="https://www.ct.gov/oha/site/default.asp">https://www.ct.gov/oha/site/default.asp</a>

<b>Organization For Autism Research</b>	Life Journey through Autism: Navigating the Special Education System	2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 401, Arlington, VA 22201	1-866-366-9710	<a href="https://researchautism.org/resources/navigating-the-special-education-system/?utm_source=OARacle+Newsletter+Subscribers&amp;utm_campaign=d67ea08004-Week+of+Apr+10+-Resource+Last+Call+Eblast-AAM+2017&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_term=0_132914a232-d67ea08004-171428105">https://researchautism.org/resources/navigating-the-special-education-system/?utm_source=OARacle+Newsletter+Subscribers&amp;utm_campaign=d67ea08004-Week+of+Apr+10+-Resource+Last+Call+Eblast-AAM+2017&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_term=0_132914a232-d67ea08004-171428105</a>
<b>Padres Abriendo Puertas, Inc.</b>	Advocacy group assisting with ensuring all individuals with disabilities have quality education, adult services and mental health services. The organization also helps empower individuals to be self-advocates. Agencies offers a variety of support groups, trainings, and recreational activities.	Mobile Office in Hartford Area	860-809-1194	<a href="https://padresabriendopuerta.wixsite.com/pap-website">https://padresabriendopuerta.wixsite.com/pap-website</a>
<b>Parent Leadership and Advocacy Training (PLAT)</b>	Parent Leadership and Advocacy is a program consisting of six modules covering a range of relevant topics and issues. These modules will help parents learn how to advocate for their child's needs as well as to improve the quality of life for other children and families in Connecticut. Modules focus on a specific topic with related learning objectives, PowerPoint presentations and handouts. The areas covered by the training include: Disability policy and history of the movement; special education; the legislative process; health care and reform; medical home; transition planning; adult services and independence; effective communication skills; and ethics and advocacy.	n/a	860-679-1589	<a href="https://portal.ct.gov/DDS/Media/Latest-News-2014/Parent-Leadership-and-Advocacy-Training">https://portal.ct.gov/DDS/Media/Latest-News-2014/Parent-Leadership-and-Advocacy-Training</a>
<b>Path Parent-to-Parent Family Voices of CT</b>	Assist families with educational navigation and support. Can also refer to an advocate outside of PATH. Provides healthcare related information.	PO Box 117 Northford, CT 06472	1-800-399-PATH	<a href="http://www.pathct.org">www.pathct.org</a>
<b>Pathfinders for Autism</b>	A Maryland-based website offering "Parent Tips" articles on a variety of topics	235 Schilling Circle, Suite 103, Hunt Valley, MD 21031	1-443-330-5370	<a href="https://pathfindersforautism.org/">https://pathfindersforautism.org/</a>

<b>Spanish Community of Wallingford</b>	Support groups help parents learn skills to appropriately advocate for their families.	284 Washington Street, Wallingford, CT 06492	203-265-5866	<a href="http://www.scowinc.org/">http://www.scowinc.org/</a>
<b>Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities</b>	Organization provides information and support to parents of children with learning disabilities or attention deficit disorders through their website, blog, regional educational programs or through its e-newsletter. Individuals can register for the e-newsletter via the website.	n/a	203-226-6831	<a href="https://www.smartkidswithld.org/contact-us/">https://www.smartkidswithld.org/contact-us/</a>
<b>Special Education and Legal Fund(SELF)</b>	Special Education Legal Fund (S.E.L.F.) was founded by parents who have navigated the special education system for their children, for parents who may need financial support to secure legal assistance for their own children in special education	P.O. Box 7855, Greenwich, CT 06836	n/a	<a href="https://spedlegalfund.org/">https://spedlegalfund.org/</a>
<b>Special Needs Alliance</b>	The Special Needs Alliance (SNA) is a national organization comprised of attorneys who practice disability and public benefits law. They can advise you about qualifying and applying for appropriate public benefits, estate planning, tax planning, trust planning, advance directives, creating special needs trusts (SNTs) to protect eligibility for means-tested government programs, availability of local services and supports, special education issues, guardianship and powers of attorney just to name a few.	n/a	n/a	<a href="https://www.specialneedsalliance.org/">https://www.specialneedsalliance.org/</a>
<b>SpedConnecticut, Inc.</b>	Trained parent advisors provide direct service support to parents with a variety of special education needs. Services include helping families navigate the special education system, facilitating communication between schools and parents, information and referrals, and special education trainings.	75 Charter Oak Avenue, Bldg 2 Suite 206, Hartford, CT 06106	860-560-1711	<a href="https://www.spedconnecticut.org/contact-us/">https://www.spedconnecticut.org/contact-us/</a>

<b>Spednet New Canaan</b>	Special education advocacy group educates the public on special education and disability-related issues and empowers parents, professionals, and students to become advocates in their schools and communities. Agency provides disability-related information and has a parent support and advocacy network for families of children with Individual Education Plans (IEP's) and Section 504 plans.	P.O. Box 1612 New Canaan, CT 06840	n/a	<a href="http://www.spednet.org">www.spednet.org</a>
<b>Spednet Wilton</b>	Special education advocacy group educates the public on special education and disability-related issues and empowers parents, professionals, and students to become advocates in their schools and communities. Agency provides disability-related information and has a parent support and advocacy network for families of children with Individual Education Plans (IEP's) and Section 504 plans.	20 Deepwood Road, Wilton, CT 06897	n/a	<a href="http://www.spednetwilton.org">www.spednetwilton.org</a>
<b>State of Connecticut Department of Education</b>	The Surrogate Parent Program appoints individuals as surrogate parents and provides education advocacy for children who are in the guardianship of the state or whose parents are unknown or cannot be located.	450 Columbus Blvd/Suite 604, Hartford, CT 06103	860-713-6910	<a href="https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Special-Education/Surrogate-Parent-Program">https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Special-Education/Surrogate-Parent-Program</a>
<b>Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut</b>	Advocacy, legal representation, advice, and information for all education related issues for people with low income	n/a	1-800-453-3320	<a href="https://www.slsct.org/">https://www.slsct.org/</a>
<b>The ARC</b>	Arc Connecticut advocacy programs are intended to support, promote and protect the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.	200 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT 06450	203-514-3028	<a href="https://thearcct.org/family-resources/">https://thearcct.org/family-resources/</a>
<b>The Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)</b>	COPAA is an independent non-profit organization of attorneys, advocates, and parents that work to protect the legal and civil rights of students with disabilities.	P.O. Box 6767, Townson, Maryland 21285	n/a	<a href="https://www.copaa.org/default.aspx">https://www.copaa.org/default.aspx</a>



<b>Western Connecticut Association for Human Rights</b>	Includes reviewing (in person or by telephone) school issues that concern the parent and the child, preparation for the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meetings, attendance and participation in the PPT session, follow-up with the parent as needed to ensure that conclusions agreed upon at the meeting(s) are enacted.	57 North Street, Suite 223B, Danbury, CT 06810	203-792-3540	<a href="https://www.wecahr.org/">https://www.wecahr.org/</a>
<b>Wrightslaw</b>	A website where individuals can access information about special education law, education law, and advocacy resources for children with disabilities.	n/a	n/a	<a href="https://www.wrightslaw.com/">https://www.wrightslaw.com/</a>
<b>Your Special Education Rights</b>	Website contains video based resources for parents to provide them with the knowledge to advocate for their child's education. The website was created by Special Education attorney Jennifer Laviano and Special Education Advocate Julie Swanson.	n/a	n/a	<a href="http://www.yourspecialeducationrights.com">www.yourspecialeducationrights.com</a>

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